

~~SECRET~~

22 June 1956

SAPC - 6825

Copy 3 of 8

25 JUN 1956

Dear Kelly:

As indicated in my informal memorandum of 13 June and our oral discussion of 20 June, two photographs of the vehicle have been under consideration for public release in response to press queries. While no firm decision has yet been made to release these photos, twenty (20) copies of each of the two selected photographs are attached for your retention pending a decision as to if and when their release should be made.

We agree with your view that, if the photos are to be released, Lockheed should be the point from which they are issued. At first we were inclined to favor a casual release in response to specific requests rather than a general release, the object being to avoid making a big splash in accord with our past attempts to underplay the significance of the vehicle as we have in our unclassified cover story and question-answer sheet. However, NACA public relations advises against this course since they feel that only a general release would keep all the interested press happy, whereas a more casual release policy would tend to favor the "haves" and raise the ire of the "have nots". We would welcome your view on this point. On one point we are all in agreement: We wish to avoid arousing a great deal of attention. In any case, use the unclassified story and question-answer sheet as your guide in handling whatever press queries do result from the release of the photographs.

Please hold the attached photos pending resolution here of the basic question as to whether and when the release should be made.

Sincerely,

*Dick*

DICK

Attachments:40

Two photos (20 copies each)

JWR/c

& 1

Orig/- Addressee w/atts

3 - Admin

4 - SO

5 - Cover Offr.

6 - RMB Chrono

7 - JAG

8 - Proj Chrono